

# 1 Interview Summaries

## 1.1 York County Emergency Management Agency

Interview Type            Personal, Municipal Agency  
Interview Location        York County Courthouse  
Interview Date            October 26, 2001  
Summary Date            November 9, 2001  
Interviewer                CDM / Michelle Thaler ([thalerma@cdm.com](mailto:thalerma@cdm.com))  
Interviewed:               Robert C Bohlmann, Director ([rcbohlmann@co.york.me.us](mailto:rcbohlmann@co.york.me.us))  
                                 45 Bennebunk Road  
                                 Alfred, ME 04002  
                                 207-324-1578

Staff Size (approx)        No GIS staff – 2 full time and 60 volunteers

Budget (approx)

URL:                        <http://www.co.york.me.us/ema/>

### 1.1.1 Overview

The York County Emergency Management Agency is made up of full time, part time and volunteer staff from agencies throughout York County and southern Maine. There are 2 full time staff and approximately 60 volunteers. The EMA is responsible for all emergency planning within the county. This includes damage assessments, hazard analysis, public education and resource coordination during an event.

### 1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

#### 1.1.2.1 Overview of GIS Utilization

York County EMA currently does not have GIS activity. There is no separate GIS budget. However, there is a possibility of using FEMA grants for GIS development.

#### 1.1.2.2 GIS Operating Environment and Infrastructure

York County EMA has 3 licenses of ArcView 3.2. These licenses will be installed at the Communication center at the York County Courthouse. Southern Maine Regional Planning Council (SMRPC) will conduct training for EMA staff.

- Hardware includes:
  - 6 PCs all networked to courthouse network running Windows NT
  - Color plotter

#### 1.1.2.3 GIS Data Resources and Requirements

##### 1.1.2.3.1 Spatial Data

- Have paper maps from Towns (produced by SMRPC) showing streets and key facility locations
- Using funding from the 1998 ice storm, there is currently a project to map public building locations

- Some fire departments in the County have hydrant locations

**Existing data sets include:**

**Basemap features:**

None

**Analysis layers include:**

None – plan to download OGIS data

**Currently unavailable but desired data sets include:**

Roads (E911)

CMP data showing zones and circuits

Building footprints

Aerial photos for use in hazamat events

Stormdrain locations

Streams and water feature locations

**1.1.2.3.2 Attribute Data**

- HAZMAT data being tracked using CAMEO

**1.1.2.4 GIS Applications and Application Requirements**

**Planned future GIS activity and applications:**

Would like to use GIS for emergency planning. This may include evacuation route planning, sensitive receptor location mapping, as well as public building and hazmat location mapping.

**1.1.3 Major Benefits and Cost Justification**

The York County EMA would benefit from the use of GIS in planning exercises and during incidents. GIS technology could assist in routing, evacuations and identifying utility locations during an incident. EMA staff is in need of GIS training.

EMA staff sees a need for statewide data standards. This would allow the EMA to incorporate data from many communities and agencies and be assured of data quality. Standards would also assist in enabling data overlays from various agencies.

The EMA coordinates with over 25 agencies and during an incident the exchange of information is vital. Any GIS applications built for the EMA would have to be easy to use and require minimal training. Different volunteer workers staff the EMA and it is impractical to train all the volunteers to use desktop GIS software.